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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/735,673	12/13/2000	Hajime Sakai	MAT-8072US	5614

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EXAMINER

TAYLOR, BARRY W

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2643

DATE MAILED: 12/05/2001

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/735,673

Applicant(s)

SAKAI ET AL.

Examiner

Barry W Taylor

Art Unit

2643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

nt(s)

Reference of References Cited (PTO-892)

Reference of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

1. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fan (5,602,908) in view of Chow (5,644,629).

Regarding claim 1. Fan teaches a telephone apparatus (Title, abstract, figures 1-2) comprising:

an information detector for detecting a transmitted caller's information (#22 figure 1);

an operation unit for specifying a group of the caller's information (#28 figure 1);

a memory (#29 figure 1) for storing caller's information and specified group (#26, #27 figure 1, col. 1 lines 57-67, col. 2 lines 19-10, columns 3-8);

a display unit (#25 figure 1); and

a controller (#24 figure 1);

wherein the controller displays the caller's information in the display unit (Title, abstract), and searches the information in the memory (col. 1 line 25-67, col. 2 lines 19-60, col. 3 line 39 – col. 8 line 51), and when finding the information coinciding with the caller's information, the caller's information is shown in the display unit so as to identify the group of the caller's information (Title, abstract, col. 2 lines 19-34, col. 3 line 42 – column 8).

Fan does not explicitly show forming priority groupings of calls. Fan is very clear that the number of LED's and light pattern used to distinguish incoming calls is not limited (col. 4 line 58+). Fan even discloses dialing by a company name (col. 2).

Chow teaches a received telephony number is classified into groups (Title, abstract). Chow discloses using group of caller's information (col. 1 lines 35-39, col. 2 line 61 – col. 3 line 42, col. 3 line 45 – col. 4 line 35, col. 5 lines 55-59, col. 6 line 39-65, columns 7-14) enabling the user to program the telephony device to screen incoming calls or alternatively route to other sub-units (abstract) based upon group information.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the screening preferences as taught by Fan to include screening preferences of groups as taught by Chow so that important calls may be answered quickly.

Regarding claim 2. Fan teaches allowing the user to make a call by dialing one or more characters instead of the whole number (last 6 lines of abstract).

Regarding claim 5. Fan teaches wherein the caller's information contains at least telephone number (see abstract).

Regarding claim 3. Fan teaches a telephone apparatus (Title, abstract, figures 1-2) comprising:

- an information detector for detecting a transmitted caller's information (#22 figure 1);

- an operation unit for specifying a group of the caller's information (#28 figure 1);

- a memory (#29 figure 1) for storing caller's information and specified group (#26, #27 figure 1, col. 1 lines 57-67, col. 2 lines 19-10, columns 3-8);

- a display unit (#25 figure 1);

- a light source (#26 figure 1) for emitting plural color lights for illuminating the display unit (abstract, col. 3 lines 39-67, col. 4 lines 4-67, col. 5 lines 1-42); and

- a controller (#24 figure 1);

wherein the controller displays the caller's information in the display unit (Title, abstract), and searches the information in the memory (col. 1 line 25-67, col. 2 lines 19-60, col. 3 line 39 – col. 8 line 51), and when finding the information coinciding with the caller's information, the caller's information is shown in the display unit so as to identify the group of the caller's information (Title, abstract, col. 2 lines 19-34, col. 3 line 42 – column 8).

Fan does not explicitly show forming priority groupings of calls. Fan is very clear that the number of LED's and light pattern used to distinguish incoming calls is not limited (col. 4 line 58+).

Chow teaches a received telephony number is classified into groups (Title, abstract). Chow discloses using group of caller's information (col. 1 lines 35-39, col. 2 line 61 – col. 3 line 42, col. 3 line 45 – col. 4 line 35, col. 5 lines 55-59, col. 6 line 39-65, columns 7-14) enabling the user to program the telephony device to screen in coming calls or alternatively route to other sub-units (abstract) based upon group information.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the screening preferences as taught by Fan to include screening preferences of groups as taught by Chow so that important calls may be answered quickly.

Regarding claims 4, 10. Fan does not explicitly show using a third color light. However, Fan clearly discloses that the number of LEDs is not limited to two and the light pattern for important levels of calls is not limited to the one mentioned (col. 4 lines 58-67).

Chow teaches using three LEDs (#9 figure 2A) to represent the status/mode of the system.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the invention of Fan to include a third LED as taught by Chow so that the user can quickly identify which mode the telephone apparatus is in.

Regarding claim 9. Fan teaches wherein the caller's information contains at least telephone number (see abstract).

Regarding claim 6. Fan teaches a telephone apparatus (Title, abstract, figures 1-2) comprising:

- an information detector for detecting a transmitted caller's information (#22 figure 1);

- an operation unit for specifying a group of the caller's information (#28 figure 1);

- a memory (#29 figure 1) for storing caller's information and specified group (#26, #27 figure 1, col. 1 lines 57-67, col. 2 lines 19-10, columns 3-8);

- a display unit (#25 figure 1); and

- a controller (#24 figure 1);

wherein the controller displays the caller's information in the display unit (Title, abstract), and searches the information in the memory (col. 1 line 25-67, col. 2 lines 19-60, col. 3 line 39 – col. 8 line 51), and when finding the information coinciding with the caller's information, the caller's information is shown in the display unit so as to identify the group of the caller's information (Title, abstract, col. 2 lines 19-34, col. 3 line 42 – column 8).

Fan does not explicitly show a plurality of sub units. Fan clearly discloses that the microprocessor is capable of calling a pager right after a high preference degree call is not answered (abstract).

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Chow teaches a received telephony number is classified into groups (Title, abstract). Chow discloses using group of caller's information (col. 1 lines 35-39, col. 2 line 61 – col. 3 line 42, col. 3 line 45 – col. 4 line 35, col. 5 lines 55-59, col. 6 line 39-65, columns 7-14) enabling the user to program the telephony device to screen in coming calls or alternatively route to other sub-units (abstract) based upon group information. Chow teaches routing the incoming call as the owner determines (col. 3). Chow even discloses remote accessing (columns 1-3, col. 7). Therefore, it would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the microprocessor as taught by Fan with the capability to route important calls to other sub-units as taught by Chow so that important calls may be answered quickly.

Regarding claims 7-11. Fan does not teach using a plurality of paging units and when a incoming call is not recognized paging all of the pagers.

Chow teaches a received telephony number is classified into groups (Title, abstract). Chow discloses using group of caller's information (col. 1 lines 35-39, col. 2 line 61 – col. 3 line 42, col. 3 line 45 – col. 4 line 35, col. 5 lines 55-59, col. 6 line 39-65, columns 7-14) enabling the user to program the telephony device to screen in coming calls or alternatively route to other sub-units (abstract) based upon group information. Chow teaches routing the incoming call as the owner determines (col. 3). Chow even discloses remote accessing (columns 1-3, col. 7). Therefore, it would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the microprocessor as taught by Fan with the capability to route important calls to other sub-units as taught by Chow so that important calls may be answered quickly.



Regarding claim 8. Fan teaches the pager will illustrate the caller's information including name and telephone number (col. 5 lines 27-42).

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Barry W. Taylor whose telephone number is (703) 305-4811. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 6:30am to 4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz can be reached on (703) 305-4708. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to Technology Center 2600 customer service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

  
**DUC NGUYEN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**